Your (3) reads "records relating to the interception of Lee Harvey Oswald's mail by the CIA. We do not know of any documents in our custody that relate to this subject."

Here again I do not have personal access to the files and have no way of knowing what files you checked. All the the files directly related to Oswald are oriented not around the assassination but around Russia, "pre-" and "Post-" Russian periods and when he was in Russia. There are a number of "investigation" files and those that deal with Government Agencies Involved" or GAI. What any one of these can contain I have no way of knowing. Nor can I know how any may have been subdivided. This is true also of the communications between the Commission and its staff and the investigative agencies.

However, it was known that Oswald was an alleged defector. It has been public and published knowledge, to my knowledge going back to the late 1930s, that there were these mail covers. This was know to the federal agencies, which were the Commission's investigators - all its investigators. Moreover, these are the very agencies that asked for the mail covers. The Commission's counsel and other staff were all aware of this, in some cases certainly from personal participation. Commissioner Dulles at the very least among Commissioners knew of it from his having been Dorector, Central Intelligence. Under him as Director a) Oswald went to Russia and returned and b) the CIA was intercepting mail to and from Russia in particularly but not exclusively. In addition to all of this the FBI, CIA and the Commission, at the very least, knew in February 1964 that Oswald's mail was being intercepted inside of Russia.

Back as far as World War II there were interceptions and copying of foreign mail by the United States government and in an official role I then filled some of this passed through my hands.

The Post Office knew of this, obvious. The Post Office knew of covers it permitted to the other egancies. The Post Office, through its inspectors, also served the Commission as part of its investigative staff.

My purpose here is not to treat the subject exhaustively but to indicate what I hope you will agree is more than enough to lead to the belief that the Commission members and staff and all the federal investigative agencies involved knew of the common practise of covering all the mail of which Oswald's was part, some knew of the interception, all knew of the need to investigate this, and you now tell me that in the enormity of the Commission's files there is no single mention of this? I remind you again that the National Archives set up the files and if I remember correctly also supplied the file clerks to the Commission.

I am interpreting your words to mean this because if I did not, your having written "We know of no documents in our custody that relatebto the subject" would then mean tou intend ambiguous language, deception.

If it is possible to believe that the CIA deliberately withheld from the Warren Commission the fact that it personally was intercepting this very mail; and if it is possible to believe that the FBI neither had knowledge of this or suspicion of it; it is not possible to believe that no member of the Commission, no member of its staff and the Post Office did not have knowledge and did not have the obligation to report and pursue that knowledge. Given the political beliefs and practises officially attributed to Oswald it is less possible to believe any of this.

I therefore believe that it was possible for my request to have been responded to more unequivocally and that if the proper members of the Archives staff had been consulted and if the proper files had been searched some record of cover and interception of Oswald's mail, whether in Commission papers or thase of the executive agncies, have to exist "in documents in our [your] custody that relate to this subject."

My request dealing with the names Martin Bray, friends of the families of those lost in the submarine Thrasher or Thresher and the Bendix company was not limited to a search under each of these proper names. Your letter is explicit in saying that "No documents are filed under this name."

How they are filed I have no way of knowing. But I do know that there are other and rather obvious files in which, had there been no entry under the names, items of this nature could and should appear.

The relates to a reported threat to kill the President. (I do not believe I told you it was addressed to the Secret Service. You say you checked its name index only.) The Commission did maintain a log of incoming mail and it did have two-way communication with the executive agencies and it did inquire into threats to kill the President.

I do not believe that the simple checking of a name file is an adequate search, I do know that your staff knows of other files that should have been check, and this appeal is intended to cause the kind of search that could and should have been made to begin with in the other files that it was known should have been searched. and it did communicate on this subject with executive agencies.

Your invitation that I "use our research facilities, as you have in the past," while it follows the foregoing, need not relate to it alone and I do not take it to. However, when the researcher is not permitted to examine the stored files, when as in the past documents I have seen and requested copies of have been withdrawn, when I have been told that those of which I have asked copies do not exist after I've seen them, and when the cost of travel is prohibitive (if less so that for an American living in Hawaii or Alaska), I do not believe the invitation, no matter how well it may be motivated, in any way reduces your obligation under the to provie me with copies of documents I have identified. Nor do I beoieve that "There is no comprehensive index to the records of the Commission" is responsive or meets your obligation because you set those files up and have been workijg them over regularly in the decade that they have been in your physical possession.

You do not even refer to checking the card index the Commission began to make and that you have, as I recall it consisting of some 6,000 names before the investigation of the assassination of a President went on an economy binge.

Your (2) reads," Information concerning declassifications and 'whether any documents are still withheld' you requested in your letter of May 14,1975. We responded to your requests in our letter of June 17,1975."